

Remarks

Initially filed were claims 1 to 20 of which claims 1, 9, and 15 were independent. These claims were canceled in a preliminary amendment in favor of new claims 21 to 39, of which claim 21 is independent. New claims were submitted. Pending were claims 21 to 78 of which claims 21, 40, 53, and 66 are independent. Because the Examiner withdrew claims 53-78 from consideration in the Final Office Action, the applicants are formally canceling claims 53-78 without prejudice. The applicants reserve the right to reintroduce these claims in any later application. The applicants are also canceling claims 21 to 39. Therefore, remaining are claims 40 to 52, of which claim 40 is independent.

The applicants appreciate the level of detailed examination given and therefore, have reduced the number of claims and simplified the case sufficiently to push the application to allowance.

Claim 40 is amended to include the limitations that the additive is a fluid and is deterrent. Support for the additives being deterrent is found on page 11 as the additives (or performance enhancers) listed in the claims are listed as being deterrent. The limitation that the additive is a fluid also eliminates the concern over the UV light description.

The UV light additive is also deleted from the claims.

Maekawa no longer anticipates nor renders the claim obvious. As identified by the Examiner, the fluorine solvent corresponds to the claimed working fluid and the solid pitch corresponds to the claimed additive. The current amendment calls for a fluid additive, which the solid pitch cannot be, and calls for a deterrent action, which the pitch cannot do. The plain meaning of "pitch" shows that pitch is generally a tarry sticky resin that attaches to fabrics, which is completely antithetical to the concept of cleaning.

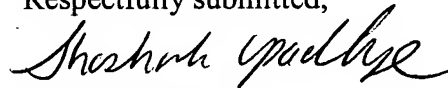
Tokuyama no longer anticipates nor renders the claim obvious. As identified by the Examiner, the fluorine compound corresponds to the claimed working fluid. The prior assertion that UV light was an additive corresponded to the additive. The additional presence of the water satisfied the co-solvent limitation of claim 45. Now, because UV light is not a claimed additive and that the additive be non-aqueous, deterrent, and a fluid, then Tokuyama's water cannot be considered as a non aqueous additive. There no longer is an additive taught in the disclosure that anticipates or renders obvious the claim. Furthermore, nothing indicates that there is disclosed compound that is deterrent. The perfluoro compound is not deterrent.

Jackson no longer anticipates nor renders the claim obvious. As identified by the Examiner, the fluorine solvent mixture corresponds to the claimed working fluid and the claimed additive. To the extent that UV light is also considered an additive, that is now moot. As noted above, the perfluoro compounds are not deterrent. The purpose of the disclosed perfluoro compounds is to fixate and react with the clothes. In the instant invention, the working fluid is present to provide an inert environment for the clothes and as a vehicle for the additives/co-solvents to work on the fabrics. Again because the purpose of Jackson's choice of chemistries is to fixate or cure the fabrics, it is completely antithetical to the nature of the claimed invention.

Conclusion

The applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections and believe that the claims as presented represent allowable subject matter. But if the Examiner desires, the applicant is ready for a telephone interview to expedite prosecution. As always, the Examiner is free to call the undersigned at 312-876-2622. The Examiner's attention is also drawn to the new correspondence address.

Respectfully submitted,



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